(c) the total number of houses damaged in the above village, separately, the name of families;

(d) the extent of damage caused to the vegetation/agriculture adjoining this village;

(e) the present condition of the road linking PANCHAPALLI with 1BRISINGH; and

(0 the complete details of the amount of compensation, etc. provided to the affected families of PANCHAPALLI, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO); (a) As reported by the State Government, two persons died in Panchapalli village due to Super cyclone.

(b) 320.

(c) 922 fully and 108 partially. Individual details are not yet available.

(d) 350 acres.

(e) Special repair in this stretch has been undertaken. Trucks and other four wheelers are plying on the road.

(0 Funds have been placed at the disposal of the Collector, Jagatsinghpur to provide ex-gratia and house building grant.

**Threat of Epidemic in Cyclone-affected areas of Orissa**

297. SHRI RUMANDLA RAMACHANDRAIAH:
SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether cyclone affected people in interior of Orissa are still in shortage of food and epidemic is feared; and

(b) the action taken to deal with the precarious-situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The State Government has reported to have taken necessary preventive measures and other steps to deal with the situation effectively.

**Agricultural Status to Poultry Farming**

†298. SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received memoranda to accord status of agriculture to poultry farming and to provide it with facilities all over the country; and

---

†Original notice of the Question received in Hindi.

(b) the action being taken by Government to formulate uniform policy therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) Department of Animal Husbandary and Dairying has received representations from Poultry Farmers Associations/ Federations in which one of the issues raised is treating poultry at par with agriculture. Poultry is a State subject, and it is within the purview of State Governments to consider such request and representations.

**Grants to Agricultural Scientists**

229. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that for maturity of Government's grants given to our agricultural research scientists in the country, it takes 2 to 3 years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps Government have taken so far, to ensue speedy grants to scientists and see that the benefit of agricultural research findings go to the farmers in the field instead of these remaining confined to laboratories and technical journals?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The question does not arise.

(c) The Institutes of the Department are allocated Plan funds in the beginning of the financial year and the scientists are provided with research contingencies for conducting research within the same financial year.

The Project proposals received under Agricultural Produce Cess Fund are referred to Subject Experts for their comments. On receiving the comments, the Project Screening Committee/Scientific Panel meetings are held to consider these proposals. The approved project proposals are given financial assistance by releasing funds in the shortest possible time.

The approvals and release of funds are coordinated and monitored by the Subject Matter Divisions and also periodical review is being done at the Secretary's level at Headquarters.

The benefit of agricultural research findings and the technologies developed under these projects reach the farmers through training, extension and frontline demonstration programmes. The Institute Village Linkage Programme is a new innovative approach tried to assess, refine and transfer the technologies to the farmers. The Krishi Vigyan Kendras also play important role in the transfer of technology.